

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 /071 W

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R 190917Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3223

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 1432

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, ET

SUBJECT: SYRIAN PRESS INTERVIEW WITH ELF VISITOR

1. APRIL 15 AL-THAWRAH PUBLISHED INTERVIEW WITH CAPT. MICHAEL JIRI NFUS, IDENTIFIED AS FORMER MEMBER OF ETHIOPIAN MILITARY COORDINATION COMMITTEE WHO DEFECTED TO ELF ON JANUARY 29, 1975 AND WHO RECENTLY VISITED DAMASCUS. NFUS MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(1) ETHIOPIAN REGIME CARRYING OUT EXTERMINATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST ERITREANS; (2) COMMITTEE BESET BY "CONTRADICTIONS" BETWEEN EDUCATED AND ILLITERATE ELEMENTS VYING FOR POWER, ALSO INCLUDES OLD MEN AND WEALTHY INDIVIDUALS ASSOCIATED WITH PREVIOUS REGIME; (3) COMMITTEE HAS ADOPTED SOCIALISM AS TOOL ONLY TO GAIN SUPPORT OF POOR MASSES AND DECEIVE WORLD PUBLIC OPINION; (4) ELF VICTORIES HAVE CAUSED "HUGE LOSSES BY ETHIOPIAN FORCES OF ARMS, EQUIPMENT AND DESTRUCTION OF ROADS AND BRIDGES"; (5) ETHIOPIAN PROGRESSIVES LED BY TEACHERS AND LABORERS ARE OPPOSING POLICIES OF COMMITTEE. NUMBER OF PROFESSORS AS WELL AS PRESIDENT OF LABOR FEDERATION AND HIS DEPUTY

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HAVE BEEN ARRESTED FOR THEIR DISSENT.

2. ARTICLE CONTAINED NO REFERENCE TO SYRIAN AID FOR
ELF.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL LEADERS, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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To: STATE
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